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Dominion



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May 15, 2020

## VIA E-FILING

Kimberly Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20426

JUL 15 2020

PSC SC MAIL / DMS

Subject:

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project

FERC Project No. 2535

Notice of Intent, Pre-Application Document, and Request to Use Traditional

Licensing Process for the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project

## Dear Secretary Bose:

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. (DESC), in accordance with the requirements of 18 CFR Sections 5 and 16, herein electronically files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) the Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pre-Application Document (PAD) for the relicensing of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project (Project) (FERC No. 2535). The current license, issued by the Commission to South Carolina Electric & Gas Company on November 22, 1995, is set to expire on October 31, 2025.

The Project is located in Edgefield and McCormick counties, South Carolina and Columbia County, Georgia, at the confluence of Stevens Creek and the Savannah River, approximately one mile upstream of the Augusta Diversion Dam<sup>2</sup>. The Project has an installed capacity of 17.3 MW and occupies approximately 104 acres of federal lands within the Sumter National Forest.

Pursuant to 18 CFR §5.5(c) and §16.8, the PAD is being distributed electronically to the relevant resource agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and other potential interested parties included on the attached distribution list. Electronic copies on CDs are available at the Edgefield County Library at 105 Court House Square, Edgefield, SC 29824; the McCormick County Library at 201 Railroad Avenue, McCormick, SC 29835; and the Columbia County Library at 7022 Evans Town Center Boulevard, Evans, Georgia 30809. The PAD is also available on the project website at www.stevenscreekrelicense.com.

DESC hereby requests Commission approval to use the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP) for the relicensing of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project. During pre-PAD agency consultation, several agencies expressed their support of the use of the TLP for the Stevens Creek relicensing. Agency

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On April 30, 2019, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) filed a letter notifying FERC that SCE&G had changed its name to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc. effective April 29, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Augusta Diversion Dam is part of the Augusta Canal Hydropower Project (FERC Project No. 11810), owned and operated by the City of Augusta, Georgia.

Kimberly Bose, Secretary Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project

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letters and emails of TLP support are contained in Attachment A to this cover letter. As provided in 18 C.F.R. § 5.3(d)(1), we note that comments on the request to use the TLP must be filed with the Commission within 30 days of this letter. Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 5.3(d)(2), DESC has published notice of the request to use the TLP in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the three counties in which the Project is located; the notice contains the information required by that section.

In accordance with 18 C.F.R § 5.5(e), the joint agency regulations at 50 CFR part 402, Section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and the implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.920, DESC hereby requests to be designated as the Commission's nonfederal representative for the purposes of consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. DESC requests authorization to initiate consultation under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and to implement regulations at 36 CFR Section 8000.2(c)(4).

Should the Commission approve the use of the TLP, DESC proposes to host a joint agency and public meeting (JAM) of the Stevens Creek Hydroelectric Project in accordance with 18 CFR § 4.38 no earlier than 30 days, but no later than 60 days, from the Commission's TLP approval.

Currently, DESC proposes to hold the JAM at the Misty Lake Clubhouse in August of 2020. The date and location of the meeting may be altered after consultation with jurisdictional agencies and other-licensing-participants and pending FERG's decision regarding DESC's request to use the TLP. If FERC requires that DESC use the ILP, then FERC will hold a scoping meeting in accordance with the regulations at CFR § 5.8.

In addition to the parties listed in the Notice of Intent, copies of the Notice are also being sent to the South Carolina Public Service Commission and the Commission's Atlanta Regional Office.

Please direct any questions pertaining to the Project or process to Ms. Amy Bresnahan, Relicensing Project Manager for DESC at (803) 217-9965 or Amy.Bresnahan@dominionenergy.com.

Sincerely,

James M. Landreth, Vice President

**Power Generation** 

Dominion Energy South Carolina, Inc.

Attachments: Attachment A – Agency TLP Support Letters

Distribution List Notice of Intent

**Pre-Application Document** 

A. Bresnahan/File c: